

# CIA end feared by Colby

**Congress can't  
keep a secret,  
spy chief says**

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Washington—William E. Colby, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, issued a strongly worded warning yesterday that American espionage will not survive the "trumpeting" of its operations by congressional committees entrusted with secret information.

Testifying before the Senate Government Operations Committee, the outgoing CIA director was bitter about current leakage of classified material flowing from Capitol Hill.

Noting that details of covert intelligence activities were now being provided to eight congressional committees, Mr. Colby stressed that "every new project" disclosed to these committees under the new oversight plan had been leaked to the public.

"The fact is that a secret operation conducted precisely according to the current procedure as set up by the Congress cannot be kept secret," the CIA chief declared. "I believe it essential to repeal that procedure and replace it by another which will include provisions for adequate secrecy."

The Government Operations Committee is seeking to develop a mechanism insuring closer congressional oversight of intelligence activities, especially those of a covert nature that led in recent months to sensational allegations of assassination plots.

The hearings coincided with a spate of congressional intelligence news leaks—including reports that CIA operatives abroad posed as journalists. The leaks prompted White House complaints about irresponsibility on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Colby suggested that the conduct of congressional leakers had done little to encourage further honest self-examination and improvement on the part of the intelligence community.

He said it had become clear that intelligence oversight had to be concentrated in a minimum number of congressional committees so that the American intelligence efforts will not be "trumpeted to its enemies."

The CIA director's comments were his most angry and outspoken reaction in more than a year of testimony before congressional committees probing the alleged misdeeds of the espionage community.

Mr. Colby was fired by President Ford last October, in the midst of the congressional inquiry into the intelligence agency. A few days later he was asked to remain at his post un-

til George Bush, the presidential nominee to head the CIA, is confirmed by the Senate. Mr. Bush's confirmation is still pending.

The much publicized Capitol Hill investigation of alleged abuse of power among intelligence agencies is now moving toward a close, with findings about to be issued by both the Senate and House intelligence committees.

The House Select Committee on Intelligence, which has been notable for leaking secret material, is currently embroiled in a dispute with the White House over what the President contends is the panel's failure to abide by terms of an agreement governing the release of classified documents.

Such material is included in the House committee's final report, much of which already has been leaked out. That report allegedly found the CIA had 11 fulltime secret agents working abroad under journalistic cover in 1975.

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities, which is due to make public the results of its inquiry, voted yesterday to turn over to the Department of Justice material relevant to the investigation into potential criminal charges against Richard Helms, former CIA director and now ambassador to Iran.

The committee's files include information about a 1971 burglary at a Fairfax (Va.) photographic laboratory run by a former intelligence employee, as well as possible perjury by Mr. Helms in sworn testimony about CIA operations in Chile and an alleged plot to assassinate columnist Jack Anderson.

The Senate committee split on the decision to turn over files on the alleged CIA break-in and on the Anderson plot to the Justice Department, with four members—Senators John G. Tower (R., Texas), Barry M. Goldwater (R., Ariz.), Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. (R., Md.) and Robert B. Morgan (D., N.C.)—in opposition.

The House committee also was divided on how much should be deleted from the final report of its investigation. Representative Otis G. Pike (D., N.Y.), contended that there was "no way" the summary could be presented in a way which would satisfy the White House, even though there had been deletion of phrases which might endanger agents or embarrass the nation in its foreign relations.

President Ford will send to Capitol Hill within the next few weeks a legislation outlining a reorganization plan for the intelligence community.